



FEMA

Disclaimer: The purpose of this briefing is to provide a ***Regional*** weather threat assessment and is meant as a general overview. County/Parish decision makers should consult their local NWS forecast offices for the latest detailed, local weather information. To find your local NWS forecast office, go to www.weather.gov/srh and click on the "Weather Forecast Offices" tab and click on the map for your area.

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Thursday, December 21, 2017

Issued: 0800 CT

Day 1 Weather Impacts: *No significant weather expected.*

National Weather Service

*Southern Region Headquarters
Regional Operations Center
Fort Worth, TX*



**Prepared by: Jennifer McNatt
817-978-1100 x 147**

Key Points



Today

- No significant weather expected

Friday - Saturday

- Strong cold front moves through the Region
 - Areas of heavy rain/flash flooding on Friday into Saturday morning from NE TX/NW LA into much of S AR
 - May see some light snow over northern portions of the Region Friday night into Saturday morning, little to no accumulations expected, but may have a slight impact on busy holiday travel
- Much colder temperatures move in behind this front

Sunday - Monday

- Some very light snow possible again on Sunday morning over NE portions of the Region; little to no accumulations are expected
- Quiet (but cooler) weather is expected across the Region on Christmas Day

FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

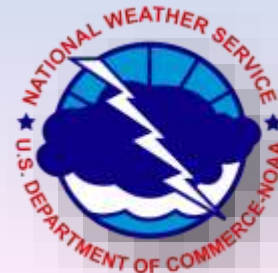
Dec 21, 2017 through Dec 25, 2017



	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	
Severe Weather					
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding		NE TX, N LA, AR			
Fire Weather					
Winter			Northern portions of the Region (AM)	NE portions of the Region (early)	
River Flooding					

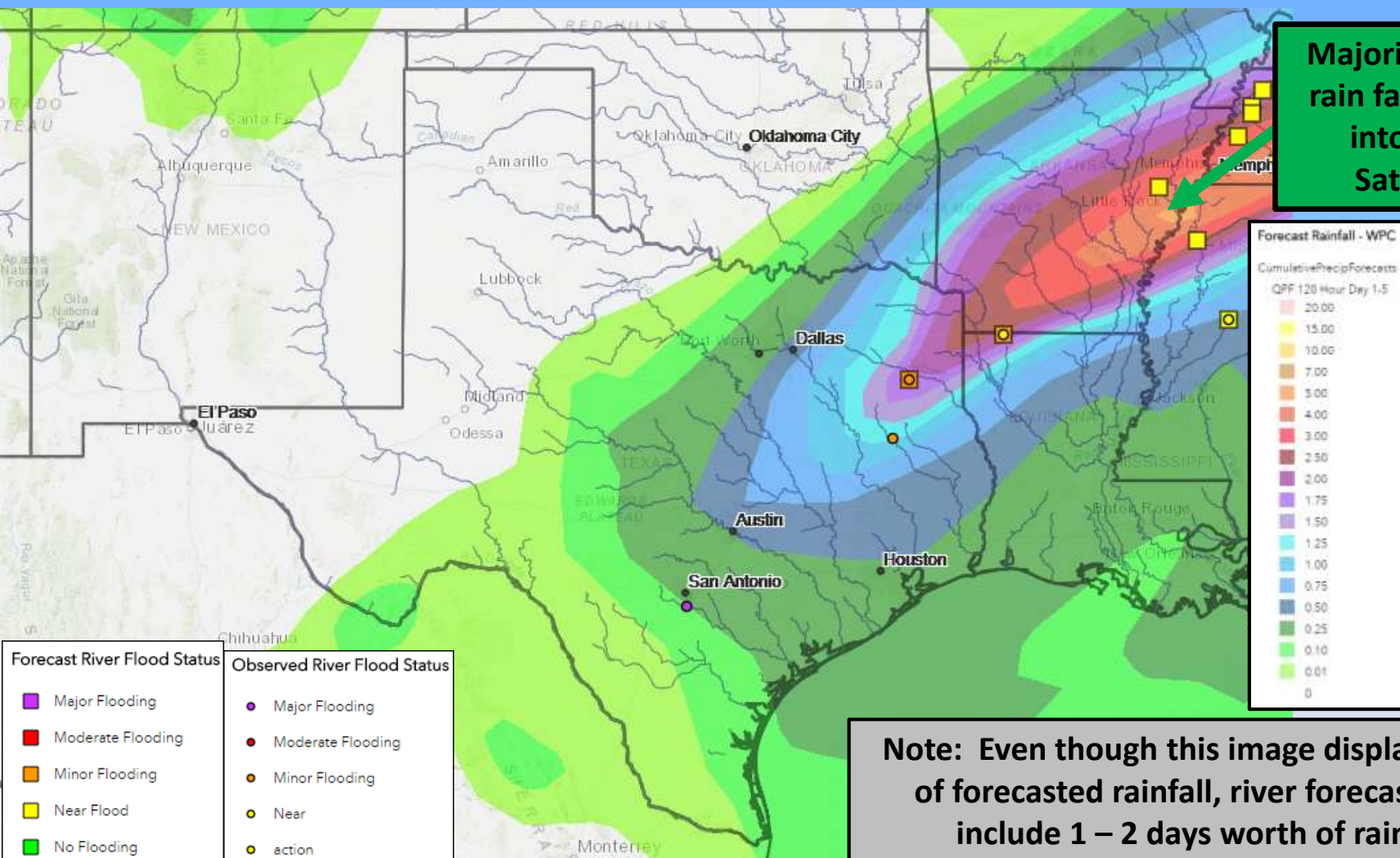
	No Weather Threats Expected
	Very Common – Happens Often
	Common – Happens Frequently
	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
	Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.



5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status

Additional rain over AR into NE TX and NW LA on Friday may produce runoff and minor river flooding.



Majority of this rain falls Friday into early Saturday

Note: Even though this image displays 5 days of forecasted rainfall, river forecasts only include 1 – 2 days worth of rainfall.

For the latest on river flooding: <http://water.weather.gov/ahps>

Today's Weather

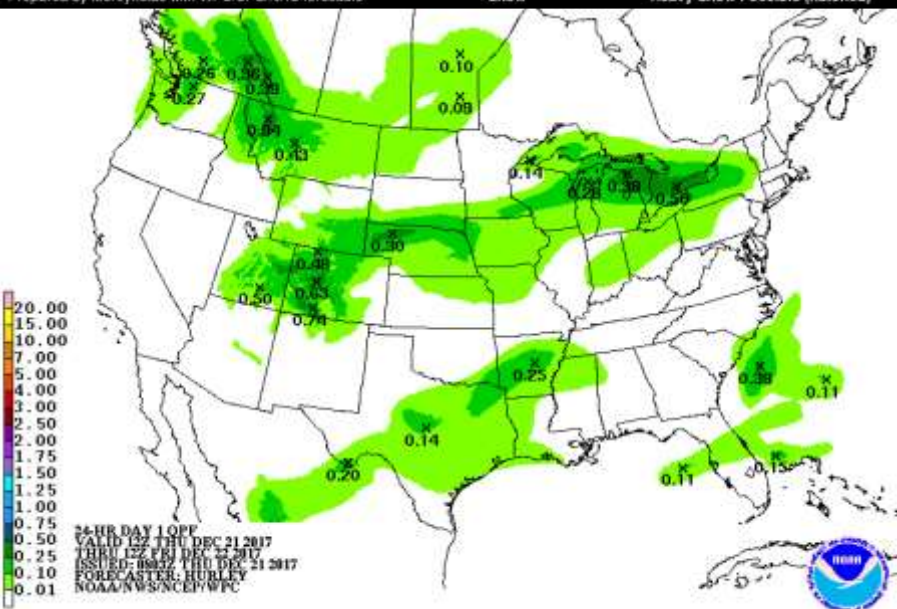
No significant weather expected.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Thu, Dec 21, 2017, issued 4:52 AM EST
DOC: NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain
Rain and T'Storms
Rain and Snow
Snow
Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)
Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)
Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)
Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)



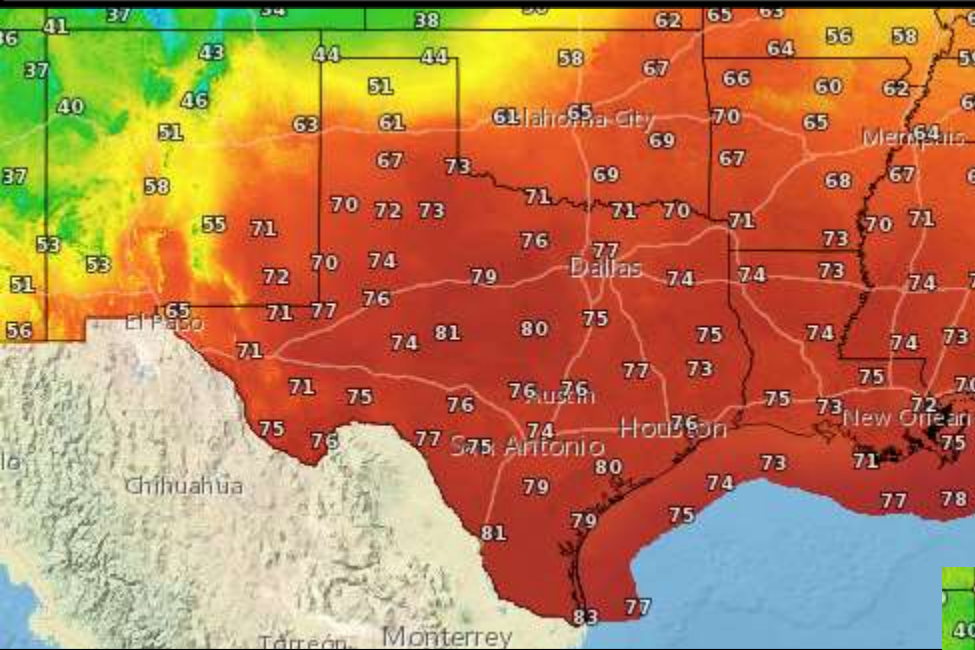
Highlighted Area: FEMA Region 8

Severe Weather Outlook Thursday, December 21, 2017

Last Updated: Dec 20 2017 10:50 PM CST
Valid (until): Dec 22 2017 06:00 AM CST

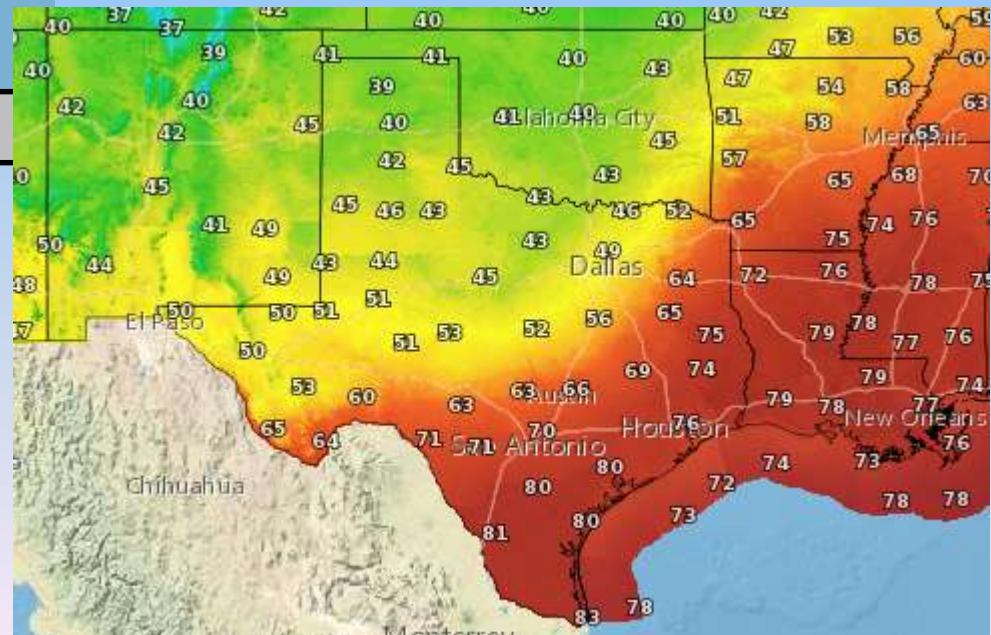


Colder Temperatures After Today



Today's High Temperatures

Enjoy today's warm temperatures as colder air is on its way into the Region tomorrow through much of next week.



Friday's High Temperatures

Tomorrow's Weather



Day 2 National Forecast Chart

Valid Fri, Dec 22, 2017, issued 4:55 AM EST Thu, Dec 21, 2017
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain
Rain and T'Storms
Rain and Snow
Snow
Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)
Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)
Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)
Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)



24-HR DAY 2 OPT
VALID 12Z FRI DEC 22 2017
THRU 12Z SAT DEC 23 2017
ISSUED 0612Z THU DEC 21 2017
FORECASTER JACKSON
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/MR

Areas of heavy rain/flash flooding possible from NE TX/NW LA into much of S AR.

Strong storms possible over SE TX Friday afternoon; strong winds and an isolated tornado possible.

May see some very light snow over northern portions of the Region Friday night into Saturday morning; little to no accumulations expected.

Highlighted Area: FEMA Region 8

Severe Weather Outlook Friday, December 22, 2017

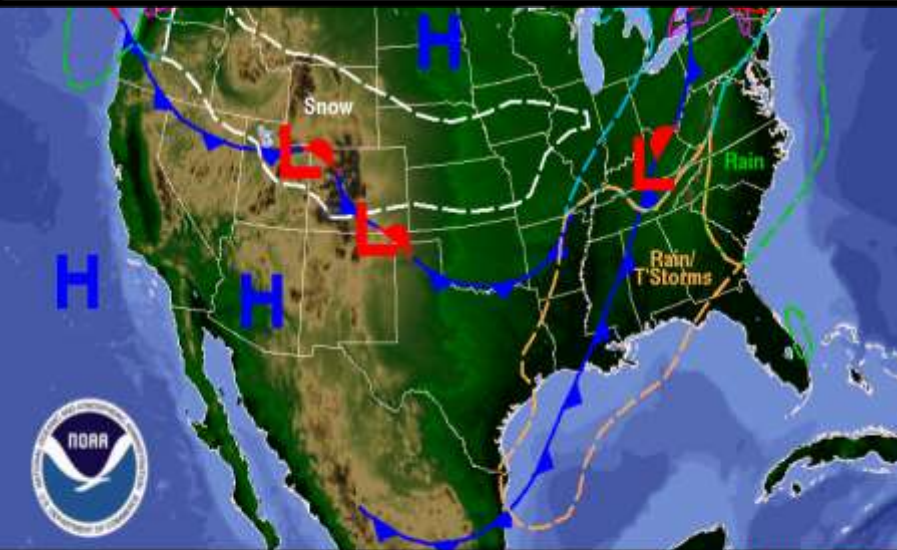
Last Updated: Dec 21 2017 1230 AM CST
Valid Until: Dec 22 2017 0600 AM CST



NOAA
National Weather Service
Storm Prediction Center
<http://www.spc.noaa.gov>

5 High
4 Moderate
3 Enhanced
2 Slight
1 Marginal
Thunder

Saturday's Weather



Day 3 National Forecast Chart

Valid Sat, Dec 23, 2017, issued 4:58 AM EST Thu, Dec 21, 2017
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain

Rain and T'Storms

Rain and Snow

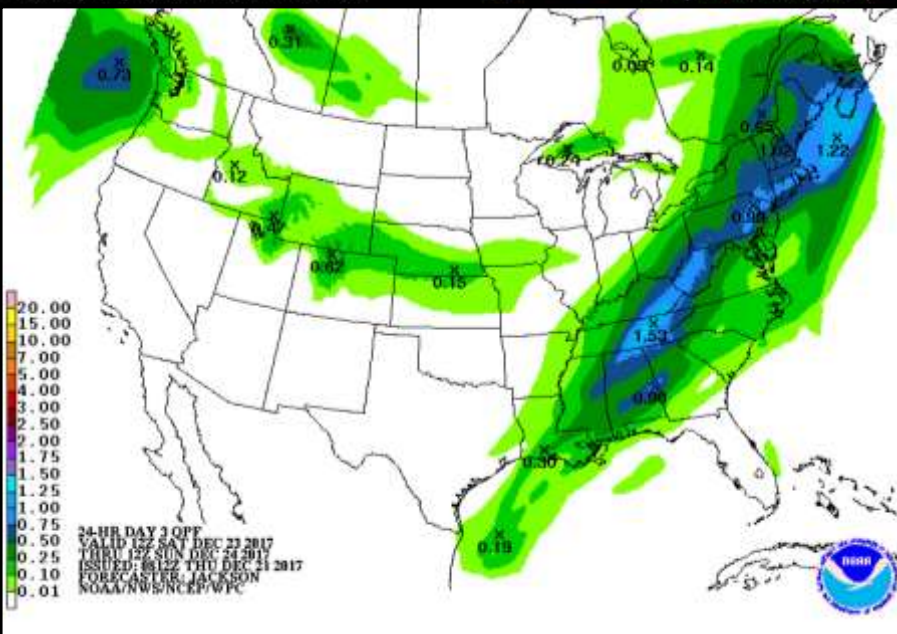
Snow

Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)

Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)

Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)

Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)



24-HR DAY 3 QPF
VALID 12Z SAT DEC 23 2017
THRU 12Z SUN DEC 24 2017
ISSUED 8:12Z THU DEC 21 2017
FORECASTER JAC TSON
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

May see some very light snow over northeastern portions of the Region early Saturday morning; little to no accumulations expected.

Highlighted Area: FEMA Region 6

Severe Weather Outlook Saturday, December 23, 2017

Last Updated: Dec 21 2017 6:12 AM CST
Valid Until: Dec 24 2017 0600 AM CST



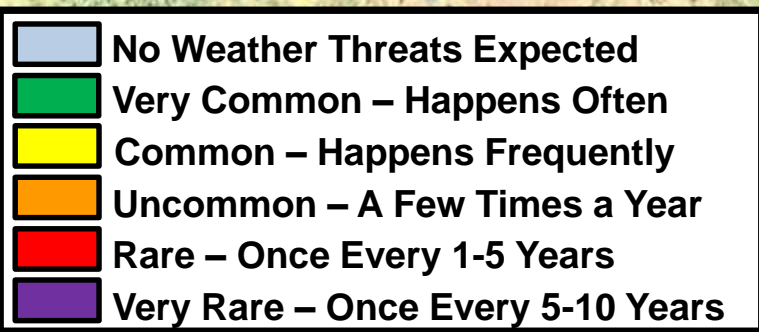
Day 4-5 Weather Hazards

Sunday - Monday



May see light snow over NE portions of the Region Sunday morning; little to no accumulations expected

Quiet (but cooler) weather is expected throughout the Region on Monday

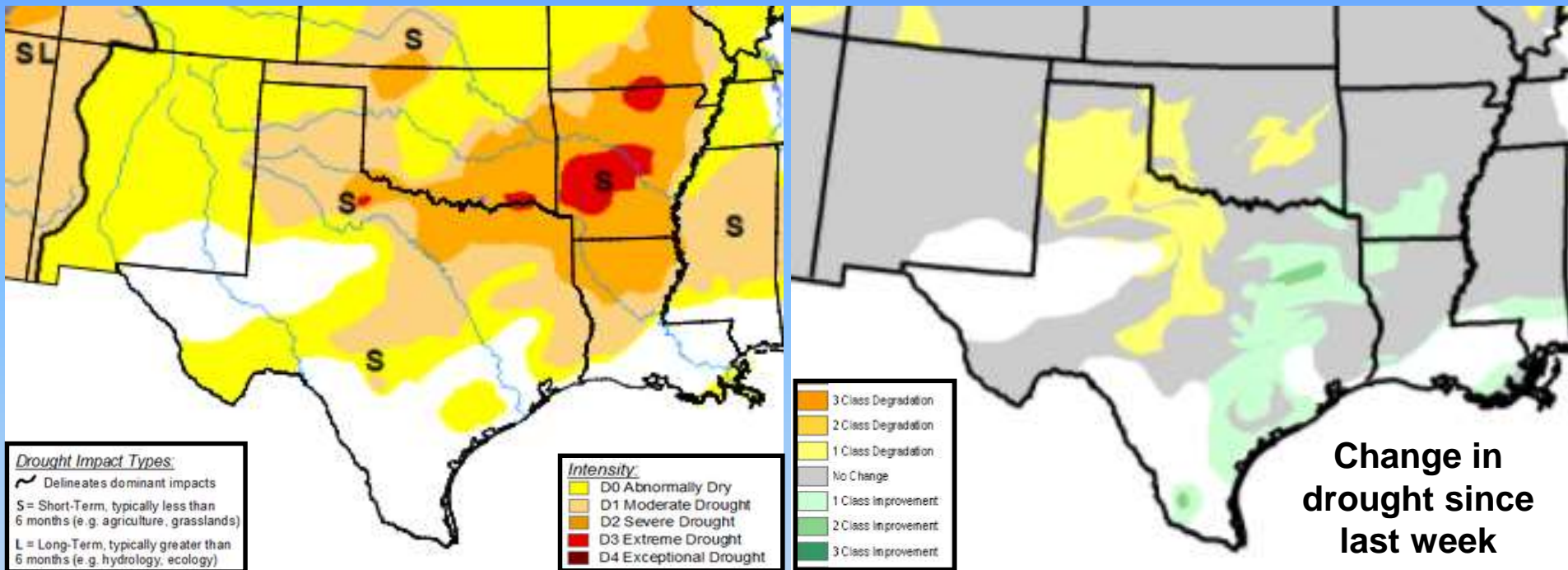


*Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria. State or local threat level criteria may differ.



Drought Monitor Released December 21, 2017

Data valid as of 6am CST, Tuesday, December 19, 2017



Drought Conditions (Percent Area) in D3-D4 (Extreme to Exceptional Drought)

State	Current	Last Week	3 Months Ago	1 Year Ago
Arkansas	25.31%	42.40%	0.00%	0.00%
Louisiana	0.00%	7.07%	0.00%	0.00%
Oklahoma	1.21	3.12	0.00%	3.14%
Texas	0.25%	0.76%	0.00%	0.04%
New Mexico	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

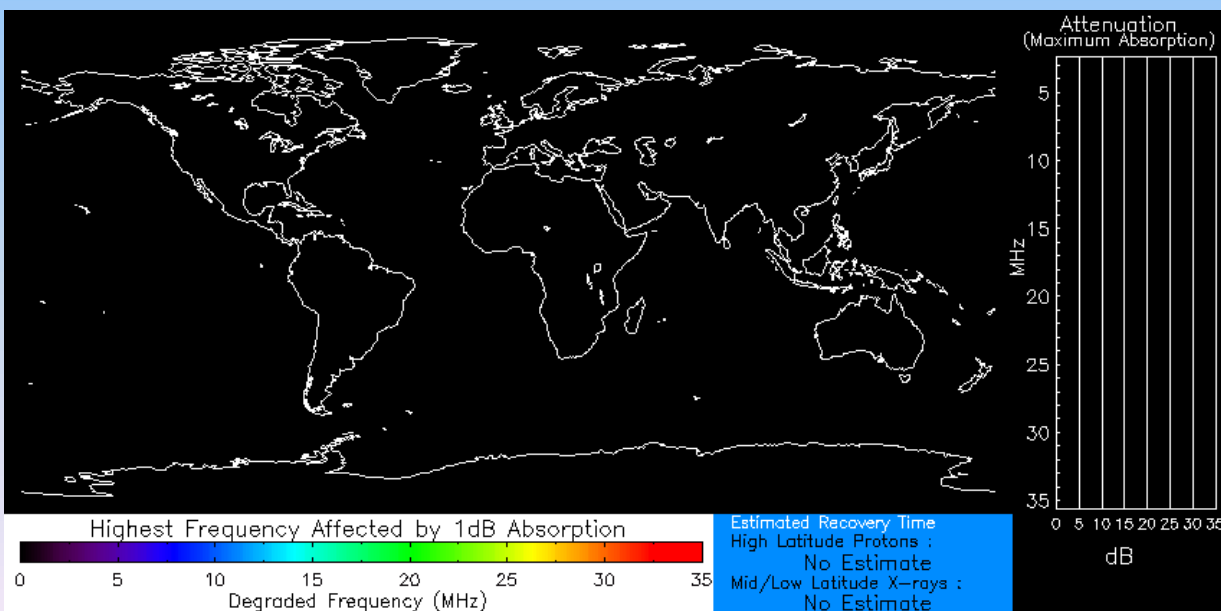
Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



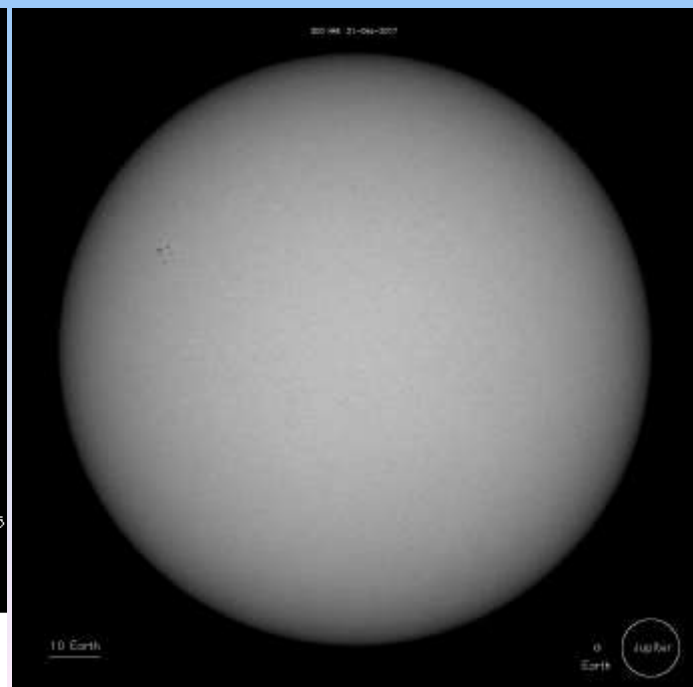
[Click here for a Description of the Space Weather Storm Scales](#)

[Click here for the Latest 3-Day Space Weather Forecast Text](#)

	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Geomagnetic Storms	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



Normal Proton Background
NOAA/SWPC Boulder, CO USA



Information provided by:



National Weather Service
Southern Region Headquarters
Regional Operations Center
Fort Worth, TX

Phone: (682) 703-3747 ***New Direct Number**
E-mail: sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov
Web: <http://www.weather.gov/srh> (**NEW link!!**)

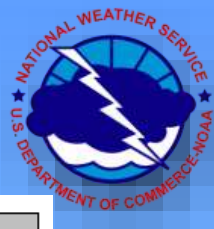
facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/NWSSouthern>

twitter

@NWS_Southern_US https://twitter.com/NWS_Southern_US

The criteria for the color codes in our briefings is below, please provide any feedback to sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov.



Weather "Threat" Matrix			
Color	Definition	Criteria	Example(s)
Green	Very Common Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines	Severe: Marginal Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over localized areas Tropical: None Fire Weather: No Watches/Warnings, fuel moisture above 10% or green up active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as <u>seabreeze</u> storms in coastal TX
Yellow	Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life	Severe: Slight Risk from SPC Flooding: Nuisance flooded expected for a widespread area, or Minor flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A weak tropical wave expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire Weather: Red Flag Watches/Warnings and/or SPC outlines enhanced or critical fire outlook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1" hail
Orange	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Enhanced Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations), or Moderate flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A Tropical Storm expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Critical fire outlook for more than 2 consecutive days, Warnings for 2 or more consecutive days, D3-D4 drought conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected
Red	Rare – Once every 1-5 Years Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Moderate Risk from SPC Flooding: Moderate flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Hurricane expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large areas of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue
Purple	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years Safety: Property Damage Unavoidable, Immediate Action to Save Life will be Needed Impact Potential: Typically Results in Long-Lived Widespread Major Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: High Risk from SPC Flooding: Major flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Major Hurricane (Cat3 or greater) expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large area of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Long term (months) of severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms